



FIRE DEPARTMENT SANTA CLARA COUNTY



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August 23, 2019

Michael J. Wilhelm
Chief, Policy and Licensing Division
Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Santa Clara County Fire Department Emergency Alert (WEA) Test

Dear Chief Wilhelm,

This letter is to respectfully request approval for an FCC Rule Waiver in order to include a live WEA test in a planned Santa Clara County Emergency Alert System (AlertSCC) test, scheduled for a focused area of the Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) service area on Friday, August 30, 2019. The test message and alerting area polygon are attached for reference.


SCCFD services a significant portion of Santa Clara County considered as Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) area, where the threat of wildfire is elevated. In addition, SCCFD provides management of Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Santa Clara County Communications dispatch center. We are responsible for public alert and warning during incidents in the areas we serve. The purpose of this test is to ensure that the WEA system will work during such emergencies, and that the public is aware of the methods by which they will receive alerts. The test will also serve as a call to action for our residents to prepare for wildfire.

We are working closely with personnel at our dispatch center and OEM to ensure the message is scripted, mapped and sent as planned.

In advance of this test, we are conducting considerable public outreach through the Santa Clara County Fire Department website (www.sccfd.org/rsg), via social media and neighborhood platforms, and directly with media and stakeholders. Data generated from the test message will serve for program improvement and to gauge the effectiveness of our campaigns.

We appreciate your prompt attention and consideration, and the opportunity to test this critical component of our alerting system in Santa Clara County.

Sincerely,


Suwanna Kerdkaew

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Organized as the Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District

*Serving Santa Clara County and the communities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos,
Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, and Saratoga*
